

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 01162 241651Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /094 W

-----020252 250905Z /15

R 241609Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4640

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1162

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, OAU, SP, MO

SUBJ: GOM ENDORSES SPANISH SOVEREIGNTY OVER CANARIES

REF: (A) RABAT 0986, (B) MADRID 1857, (C) DAKAR 1388 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL (B), MOROCCAN EMBASSY IN MADRID ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE ON FEBRUARY 20 REJECTING THE REPORTED RECOMMENDATION OF THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE THAT ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES GRANT ECONOMIC AND LOGISTICAL AID TO THE CANARIES' INDEPENDENCE GROUP (MPAIAC). THE COMMUNIQUE, WIDELY PUBLICIZED HERE, NOTED THAT (A) MOROCCO CONSIDERED - AND HAD ALWAYS CONSIDERED - THE CANARIES AN INTEGRAL PART OF SPAIN AND (B) MOROCCO DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE MPAIAC AS A LEGITIMATE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND WOULD CONSEQUENTLY NOT PROVIDE IT WITH ANY FORM OF SUPPORT. THE COMMUNIQUE ENDED BY EMPHASIZING THAT THE GOM TOTALLY SUPPORTED THE POSITION OF THE GOS.

2. THE PRO-GOVERNMENT PRESS HAS ALSO TAKEN A STRONGLY PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RABAT 01162 241651Z

SPANISH STANCE ON THE CANARIES ISSUE, CLAIMING THAT ALGERIAN DUPLICITY HAD MISLED THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE. IN AN EDITORIAL FEBRUARY 22, AL MAGHRIB NOTED THAT WHEREAS THE SPANISH LEFT HAD BEEN INCONSISTENT IN DEMANDING SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE "MOROCCAN SAHARA" WHILE ENDORSING THE PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY FOR THE CANARIES, MOROCCO HAD CONSISTENTLY ENDORSED THE PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND THUS CONSIDERED

THE CANARIES AN INTEGRAL PART OF SPAIN.

3. MAURITANIA, WE NOTE, WAS QUICK TO FOLLOW THE MOROCCAN LEAD, AS REFLECTED IN MAURITANIAN FONMIN OULD MOUKNASS INTERVIEW PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 21 BY THE SPANISH NEWS AGENCY, EFE, STRESSING THAT MAURITANIA CONSIDERED THE CANARIES AS INTEGRAL PART OF SPAIN AND THAT MAURITANIAN RESERVATIONS WOULD BE TRANSMITTED IN WRITING ON THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE CANARIES TO THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

4. COMMENT: THE GOM CLEARLY REMAINS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE IMPROVEMENT IN SPANISH-MOROCCAN BILATERAL RELATIONS, HOPING TO WEAKEN SUPPORT OF THE SPANISH LEFT FOR THE POLISARIO AND PREVENT SLIPPAGE WITHIN THE GOS ON THE SAHARA ISSUE, AND TO KEEP THE SPANISH-MOROCCAN FISHING AGREEMENT RECENTLY PASSED BY THE CORTES ON THE TRACKS. CONSEQUENTLY THE GOM WISHED TO ALLY ANY SPANISH FEARS THAT MOROCCAN IRREDENTISM MIGHT LEAD TO TROUBLE EITHER WITH RESPECT TO CANARIES OR -- FOR THE MOMENT -- TO THE SPANISH ENCLAVES OF CEUTA AND MELILLIA. THE FUROR OVER THE CANARIES IS PARTICULARLY WELL-SUITED FOR MOROCCAN PURPOSES IN THAT IT GIVES THE GOM THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPARE FAVORABLY ITS MODERATE, PRO-SPANISH POSITION WITH THE RADICAL, PRO-MPAIAC STANCE TAKEN BY ALGERIA.

ANDERSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOVEREIGNTY, COMMUNIQUE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978RABAT01162
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780087-0957
Format: TEL
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780216/aaaaanex.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0fc038d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 RABAT 986, 78 MADRID 1857, 78 DAKAR 1388
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3485597
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOM ENDORSES SPANISH SOVEREIGNTY OVER CANARIES
TAGS: PBOR, SP, MO, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0fc038d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014